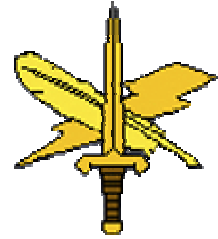




NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST

Neighborhoods at Fort Riley are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities Aug. 1 for the "23rd Annual National Night Out" crime and drug prevention event.

The National Association of Town Watch sponsors National Night Out. On post, the event is co-sponsored by the 97th Military Police Battalion. In all, more than 34 million people in more than 10,000 communities in all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world are expected to participate in 'America's Night Out Against Crime' on Aug. 1.

National Night Out is designed to:

Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;

Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts;

Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships; and

Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

From 7 to 10 p.m. Aug. 1, residents in neighborhoods throughout Fort Riley and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police on Cavalry Parade Field.

This year's event will feature displays and demonstrations that are intended to increase the Fort Riley community's awareness of the many community support teams active on post.

Fort Riley's event will include "the convincer" from the Kansas Highway Patrol, a bicycle rodeo, Sidney the Go-Cart, an inflatable obstacle course and support from the teen center, displays from the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, military police K-9 and special response team demonstrations.

The main event will be an outdoor movie with food being cooked by volunteers culminating into a National Night Out Walk that will start at Cavalry Parade field and be escorted by military police to Riley's Conference Center and back. Each participant will take a pledge against crime and receive a National Night Out glow stick to participate in the walk.

Organizations interested in participating in this year's event or anyone wanting more information should call the contact program director, Officer Tom Desjardins, at 239-2226.